

Committee on Community Safety
November 13, 2008 Summary
Audiotape of the meeting is available at Town Clerk's Office
Minutes are available at Town Clerk's Office

1. Call to order: 7:05 pm

Present: Tony Casasanta, Mitch Page, Dave Tompkins, Sheryl Werner

Absent: Scott Delbuono, Chris Ganzer, Michael Pizzuto

Also attending: Jay Bottalico, Town Council Liaison, Dave Nagel, Town Council Liaison, Kris Nasinnyk, Town Council Liaison, Tim Manke, Youth-Adult Council Liaison, Ken Freidenberg, Director of Human Services, Sgt. Jason Saccente

- 2. Public Participation** – Rose Lyons expressed concern about the relocation of the mailboxes at the Post Office. She also reported on attending a recent Board of Education meeting and asking about the Safe Routes to Schools grant which requires a student and parent survey. A letter was sent to her by the Board informing her that the Superintendent would be in contact with a representative of the SRTS Committee. Rose asked for any updated information.

Ken Freidenberg updated the Committee explaining an ad-hoc committee was set up in August specifically to develop a grant SRTS grant proposal. It was his understanding from State Department of Transportation (DOT) that a request for proposal (RFP) would be available in January. Representation of the ad-hoc committee included Assistant Principal of Martin Kellogg, Teddi Kopcha, Ed Meehan, Town Planner, Bruce Till, Interim Superintendent of Parks & Recreation, Sgt. Jeannine Allin and residents Mitch Page, Pam Raynock, Jennifer Walker and Fara Alleyne. Information and data was being collected by Police, School Transportation and Town Planner. Ed Meehan and Ken Freidenberg did a drive through of the area and Ed put together a map with the data available. Since the grant requires a parent and student survey, Ken Freidenberg sent all of the grant information and surveys to Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Perlini who was reviewing the surveys but had concerns about taking away from instructional time. On behalf of the ad-hoc committee, Town Manager, John Salomone requested the services of a consulting engineer which is being offered at no cost by the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) to support towns' development of this grant. Ken reported that all grant proposals are required to go through CRCOG before being forwarded to DOT. The Committee asked Ken to recheck with the State to determine if these grant funds will still be available given the recent economic conditions.

3. New Business

a. Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson – The Committee elected Tony Casasanta as chair and deferred election of Vice Chair until the next meeting.

b. Direction of Committee – The Committee asked Ken Freidenberg to check with the Town Manager and Post Office Manager regarding the placement of the Post Office boxes. The Committee is also interested in receiving input from residents regarding their safety concerns and

decided to put a comment section on the Town website. Chairperson Tony Casasanta and Mitch Page will also contact the Town Crier and Newington Life as another method to make the public aware of the Committee and ask for their input. Dave Tompkins suggested inviting a representative of the new Downtown Association to the next meeting. He will contact Walter Gualtieri.

4. Public Participation – None

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ken Freidenberg".

Respectfully Submitted: Ken Freidenberg, Director of Human Services

Next Meeting: Thursday December 11 at 7pm Ambler Conference Room 3 (near Building and Engineering Departments)